

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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2005 Law Changes WSP Dissemination of Criminal Records Information

Soon the WSP Identification and Criminal History Section will be able to include convictions of all crimes and pending arrests of crimes against persons when disseminating criminal history record information (CHRI) pursuant to the Child and Adult Abuse Information Act (RCW 43.43.830).

The 2005 Legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill 5899, changing the definition of releasable criminal history record information (CHRI) and civil adjudications by the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Identification and Criminal History Section. Under the new law, the WSP Identification and Criminal History Section will be required to include convictions of all crimes, and pending arrests (those less than one year old without disposition) of crimes against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411. Previously, the Section's response was limited to convictions of certain categories of crimes.

In addition, annotations to the CHRI will contain notices of the following:

- a. Civil adjudications, administrative findings, or disciplinary board final decisions will need to be obtained directly from the courts or licensing agencies.
- b. A pending crime against persons is not a conviction or a finding of guilt.
- c. Records do not include other types of pending crimes.

In order to make this possible, the WSP has been working diligently to upgrade programming in the current criminal history system. The bill becomes effective July 24, 2005 but the programming changes are not expected to be complete until September 30, 2005.

“Until the programming is complete the WSP will be notifying all agencies, and clients who request criminal record information, that this additional information is not included,” said Mary L. Neff, Criminal Records Division Commander.

For more information, the public can contact the WSP Identification and Criminal History Section at (360) 705-5100.

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